

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY

SUBCOMMITTEES

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS,
PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY AND
INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

April 21, 2009

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES

CHAIR, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

AVIATION

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEES

FEDERAL WORKFORCE, POSTAL SERVICE, AND THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

INFORMATION POLICY, CENSUS, AND
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Sent: VIA Email

Dear D.C. Small Business:

On **Wednesday, May 13, 2009**, at the Washington Convention Center (801 Mount Vernon Place, NW), from **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** we will hold my annual small business fair this year entitled, **“The D.C. Small Business Advantage during this Recession,”** free of charge but only for D.C. small businesses and residents. This year’s Fair will feature significant advantages our city has during the current economic recession, because of new funds and opportunities made available by Congress and the Obama administration.

Because the District is both the official federal city and a hometown, I have been able to secure not only \$1 billion in stimulus dollars for the District of Columbia, but an additional \$1 billion to begin building the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), where we expect to break ground this summer. In addition, I have also secured an additional \$6 billion in federal stimulus dollars through my chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management, and almost a third of this amount will likely come to the District because of the city’s large federal presence.

These opportunities have already borne fruit for D.C. in the work that has begun on the DHS headquarters in Ward 8. For the preliminary work on the site, 100% has gone to 8A businesses and 40% has gone to D.C. businesses. A workshop on how to obtain additional DHS and other federal contract work will be provided at the Fair. **Workshops will cover Disadvantaged Business Enterprise work, and how to access business that is related to the 38,000 jobs to be provided by a variety of businesses of every size because of the first building on DHS, and other stimulus funded opportunities.**

In addition to new opportunities, experts at the Fair also will advise participants on how small businesses can succeed in accessing capital, which is the single most important challenge to small business in good and poor times alike. **The President’s Small Business Lending Initiative, making \$15 billion available to small businesses,** will be particularly highlighted. This new Presidential Initiative eliminates all fees on SBA-backed loans and raises the guaranteed portion of a Small Business Administration loan from 85 to 90 percent. In addition to the new initiative, we will offer participants the opportunity to apply for loans on the spot at the Fair

and will provide information on other financial assistance programs available through the SBA. One of the greatest benefits of the Fair will be the opportunity to get on the General Service Administration's Schedule for Government Procurement. Every small business desires this opportunity because once a business is listed on the schedule, it is automatically eligible to work without bidding against competitors.

You can also learn about other valuable finance-related opportunities, such as how to buy the space you are renting. There will be **individual one-on-one advice and technical assistance from Federal government contracting officers, bank loan officers, and SBA specialists.**

No small business in the District can afford to miss our Small Business Fair, particularly this year. More than sixty exhibitors and 400 small businesses participated in last year's Fair. We expect, this year, to repeat this success and to build upon it.

Seating is first-come, first-served. The only way to guarantee a place at this free-of-charge event is to **register by immediately faxing or mailing your completed Registration Form** to my Congressional District Office at 529 14th Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20045-1928, FAX: (202) 783-5211. You are strongly encouraged to register far in advance.

To reserve a place, please **return your Registration Form by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2009.** If you have any questions, please call my district office at (202) 783-5065.

I look forward to seeing you on May 13th.

Sincerely,



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

EHN:ls

CONGRESSWOMAN ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON'S
Small Business Access to Capital Fair

Date: May 13, 2009

Time: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Place: Washington Convention Center
801 Mount Vernon Place, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Type or Print Clearly. I cannot Accept Incomplete Registrations.

Name: ☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Other: _____

(First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Business Title: _____

Business Name: _____

DC Address: _____

Washington, DC Zip Code: 200 ____

This is my ☐ Business ☐ Residence ☐ Mailing Address

Phone: Voice: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____@_____

Type of Business: _____

Return to: Cong. Eleanor Holmes Norton
529 14TH ST NW STE 900
Washington, DC 20045-1928
E-mail: <mailto:NortonEvents@Mail.House.Gov>
Fax: (202) 783-5211

CONGRESSWOMAN ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON'S

Small Business Access to Capital Fair

Previous Year's Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Comments</i>
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Check-in & On-site Registration	Arrive early for on-site registration & check-in. Avoid last minute delays.
9:00 am – 10:45 am	General Session “ACCESS TO CAPITAL”	Opening Remarks: Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton Keynote Address Panel Discussion
<i>*Additional questions will be addressed at the Exhibitor Tables from 1:45 pm to 4:00 pm (after the final workshop).</i>		
10:45 am – 11:00 am	BREAK & Networking	
11:00 am – 12 noon	Concurrent Morning Workshops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Entrepreneurial Development 2. Federal Government Contracting & Procurement
12 noon – 12:30 pm	LUNCH (on your own)	
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm	Concurrent Afternoon Workshops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Financing Your Small Business 4. DC Government Contracting & Procurement
<i>*Additional questions will be addressed at the Exhibitor Tables from 1:45 pm to 4:00 pm (after the final workshop)</i>		
1:45 pm – 4:00 pm	One-on-One Meetings with bank, credit union and contracting officials to discuss loans and contracts	